RODNEY DAVIS

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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, **DC** 20515–1313 June 8, 2017 COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

The Honorable Scott Pruitt Administrator Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W. Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt,

As the Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee's Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research Subcommittee and as a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I cordially invite you to my Congressional District to visit our state capital Springfield, Illinois on Agriculture Day during the Illinois State Fair. This year, Agriculture Day is on Tuesday, August 15th.

During my first four years in Congress, I observed a widening trust gap emerge between farmers and multiple Federal agencies, including the EPA. I therefore believe that your attendance at Agriculture Day would be a great opportunity for this administration to continue the process it has already begun of narrowing that trust gap and assuring the agriculture community that you and President Trump intend to work with them to make sure their voice is heard.

I would also like to invite you to tour Springfield City Water, Light, and Power (CWLP), the largest municipally owned utility in the State of Illinois. CWLP provides power for the city of Springfield from four coal-fired boilers burning Illinois coal. These boilers operate with water from CWLP's wholly owned Lake Springfield, which also provides the city with clean drinking water. Unfortunately, the Effluent Limitations Guidelines (ELG) Rule published in November 2015 would have imposed unnecessary and costly requirements on CWLP with zero environmental benefit. Thanks to your leadership, the EPA recently proposed postponing compliance dates for the ELG rule. This decision is of significant importance to Springfield.

Finally, in light of your recent announcement of a task force to review the EPA's Superfund program, I would also like to invite you to visit the Pillsbury Mills LLC removal site in Springfield. The site is a former food processing facility and has been vacant for nearly 10 years. EPA is currently removing and disposing of asbestos waste and other hazardous materials, and the project is scheduled for completion by the end of July. This visit would be a great opportunity to discuss what changes could be made to improve the Superfund program.

I believe your visit to Springfield on Agriculture Day would be a perfect opportunity for you to communicate this administration's approach to working with rural America. If you have any

questions, please have your staff contact Miles Chiotti, my Legislative Director. He can be reached by phone at (202) 225-3271 or via email at Miles.Chiotti@mail.house.gov.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Rodney Davis

Member of Congress